

SENIOR ENLISTED

ADVISORS ^{OF}
THE

NEW JERSEY

AIR NATIONAL GUARD





I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.

I AM A WARRIOR.

I HAVE ANSWERED MY NATION'S CALL.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.

MY MISSION IS TO FLY, FIGHT, AND WIN.

I AM FAITHFUL TO A PROUD HERITAGE,

A TRADITION OF HONOR,

AND A LEGACY OF VALOR.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.

GUARDIAN OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE,

MY NATION'S SWORD AND SHIELD,

ITS SENTRY AND AVENGER.

I DEFEND MY COUNTRY WITH MY LIFE.

I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.

WINGMAN, LEADER, WARRIOR.

I WILL NEVER LEAVE AN AIRMAN BEHIND,

I WILL NEVER FALTER,

AND I WILL NOT FAIL.

OUR HERITAGE

THIS BOOK IS MORE THAN RECOGNITION OF OUR PAST STATE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISORS OF THE NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD AND NEW JERSEY AIRMEN WHO REACHED THE PINNACLE IN THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD. IT'S A CELEBRATION OF ENLISTED AIRMEN AND AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THEIR CONSIDERABLE EVOLUTION.

THE STATE COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SGT. IS THE TOP ENLISTED CITIZEN-AIRMAN OF THE STATE AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADVISING THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, COMMANDERS AND STAFF ON MILITARY READINESS, MISSION EFFECTIVENESS, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, UTILIZATION, HEALTH, MORALE AND WELFARE OF THE STATE'S ENLISTED AIRMEN. THE STATE COMMAND CHIEF TAKES ACTION TO ADDRESS SHORTFALLS OR CHALLENGES AND PROVIDES LEADERSHIP TO THE ENLISTED FORCE. ADDITIONALLY, THE STATE COMMAND CHIEF PROVIDES OVERSIGHT, MENTORSHIP AND GUIDANCE TO THE WING COMMAND CHIEFS, GROUP SUPERINTENDENTS, AND FIRST SERGEANTS IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

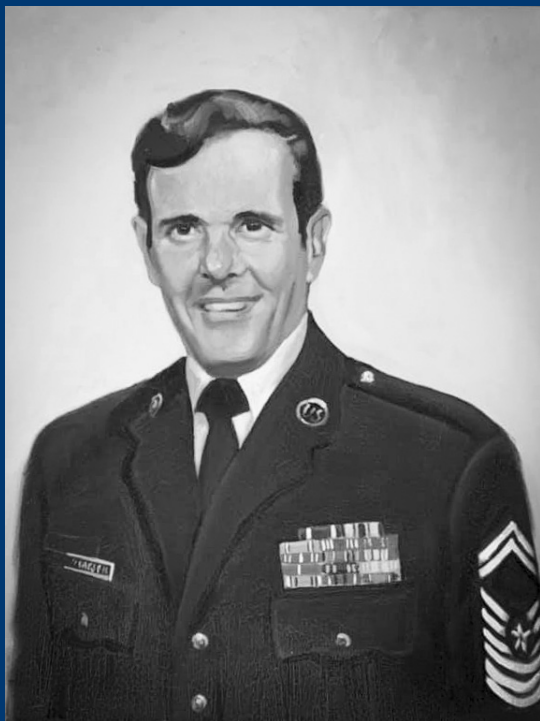
ON NOV. 1, 1998, U.S. AIR FORCE GEN. MICHAEL RYAN, CHIEF OF STAFF, AND THE 12TH CHIEF MASTER SGT. OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE ERIC BENKEN IMPLEMENT THE NEW INSIGNIA AND TITLE CHIEF MASTER SGT. SERVING IN SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR POSITIONS. THE NEW TITLE WAS COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SGT., WHICH INCLUDED A CHEVRON WITH AN ADDITIONAL STAR LOCATED IN THE BLUE FIELD.

-MICHAEL J. RAKAUCKAS, RAVEN 293
STATE COMMAND CHIEF MASTER SGT., NJANG



CHIEF MASTER SGT. THEODORE (TED) H. JACKSON

1ST AIR NATIONAL GUARD SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR
1 MAY 1975 - 30 APRIL 1977



Ted Jackson was born in Morristown, N.J., on July 29, 1924. He joined the Marine Corps in 1942 and was separated when the war ended in 1945. Two years later he joined the New Jersey Army National Guard, and in 1958 he transferred to the New Jersey Air National Guard.

In March, 1948, Jackson entered the National Guard technician program and was subsequently called to active duty with his unit when it was activated during the Korean War. After release from active duty he returned to his technician position serving as a Military Personnel Officer, Chief Warrant Officer 2, until October 1958 when he resigned his position to enter the New Jersey Air National Guard. During this period he served as the First Sergeant for the Combat Support Squadron and later as the Chief of Administration for the 177th Tactical Fighter Group.

He played key roles in developing the state NCO Association and organized his unit's award-winning pistol team. Prior to assuming the position as the Senior Enlisted Advisor, he participated in two call-ups; the Berlin Crisis in 1961 and the Pueblo call-up in 1968. During his Army service he attended the Enlisted Wheel and Track Vehicle Mechanics Course, Guerrilla Warfare School, and OCS Leadership School, all at Fort Knox, Ky. During his Air Force service he attended both Basic and Advanced Pistol Marksmanship courses conducted by the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Dix, N.J., CBPO Operational Techniques at Amarillo AFB, Texas; and the Air National Guard NCO Academy, McGhee-

Tyson, ANGB, Tenn.

On May 1, 1975, Jackson reported to the Air Directorate, National Guard Bureau for a two year tour as the first appointed Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Director of the Air National Guard.

Jackson's awards and decorations include the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with a bronze oak leaf cluster, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, WWII Victory Medal, National Defense Service Medal with two bronze stars, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award with one silver and one bronze oak leaf cluster, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with two hourglass devices, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, NCO Professional Military Education and Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbons.

He returned to Atlantic City's 177th Fighter Interceptor Group and served there as a training technician and as the unit's historian until his death on Oct. 30, 1979. At age 55 he was a veteran of 38 years military service. In accounting his death to the field, Gen. Guice said; "He earned the respect of all that knew and served with him. Chief Master Sgt. Jackson's contributions to the Enlisted Force and to the Air National Guard will long be remembered."

Jackson is survived by his wife Harriet, daughter, Pam, and son Ted. Burial with military honors was at Basking Ridge, N.J.

This booklet introduces the first ten individual Enlisted Citizen-Airmen who have served as State Command Chief of New Jersey, from 1984 to the present day.

Index of New Jersey State Command Chief Master Sergeants:

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Chief Master Sgt. Vincent P. Morton, 2012-2016

Chief Master Sgt. Janeen M. Fillari, 2016-2019

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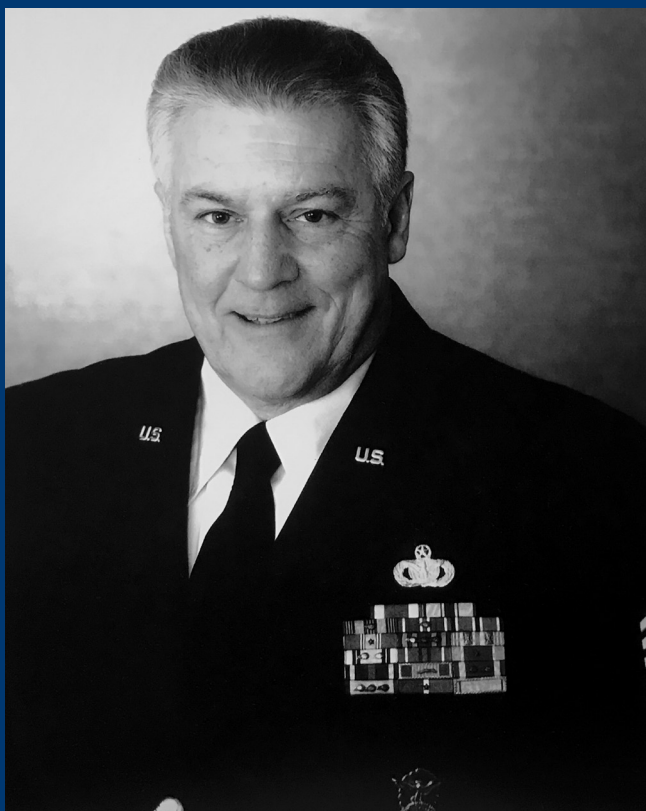
NEW JERSEY

A I R N A T I O N A L G U A R D

CHIEF MASTER SGT. GEORGE W. HILDEBRANT

1ST NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR
1984-1989

1



George W. Hildebrant enlisted in the 108th Fighter-Bomber Wing in July, 1955 at Newark Airport and was assigned to the motor pool as a truck mechanic. In 1956, the 108th Tactical Fighter Wing converted from the P-51 Mustang to the F-86 Sabre and relocated to McGuire Air Force Base, N.J.

In 1969, Hildebrant attended the NCO course at Shaw Air Force Base S.C. In 1982 he graduated from the NCO Academy and was promoted to the rank of Senior Master Sgt. and was assigned as Non-Commissioned Officer-in-Charge of the 170th Motor Pool.

Hildebrant was promoted to the rank of Chief Master Sgt. in 1984. Also in that year, Gen. Charles Young appointed him as the first State Senior Enlisted Advisor where he served for five years.

In 1989, the commander of the 170th Air Refueling Wing recruited and assigned Hildebrant into the 170th Security Police Flight.

In 1993 the 170th and 108th Air Refueling Wings consolidated into the new 108th Air Refueling Wing and Hildebrant continued to serve as the Security Forces Manager.

During his career, Hildebrant was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal and the Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Award, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Ribbon, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Air Force Basic Training Ribbon and Republic

of Vietnam Gallantry Cross. His state awards include the New Jersey Medal of Honor, New Jersey Good Conduct Medal, New Jersey Merit Award, Desert Storm Medal, State Service Award, Governor's Unit Award and the Unit Strength Award.

During his career he deployed to Italy, Germany, Portugal, Labrador, Spain, Hawaii, Goose Bay and Guam. He served on active duty at McGuire Air Force Base during the 1958 Berlin Airlift, 1961 Pueblo Crisis and Desert Storm. In addition he saw action during the Vietnam War.

Hildebrant retired from service on Feb. 1, 1997 with 41 years and 7 months of service. He and his wife Karen reside in Nazareth, P.A. They have five children, Melanie, Cindy, George, Don and Todd.

CHIEF MASTER SGT. MATTHEW M. VAUGHN

2ND NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR
1989 - 1996

2



Matthew M. Vaughn was born on Oct. 20, 1936, in Okeechobee, Fla. His parents moved to Englishtown, N.J. where he attended Englishtown Grammar school. He went on to Jamesburg High School, Jamesburg, N.J., and in 1957 he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force.

He completed his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. He was then sent TDY to Amarillo Air Force Base where he attended Technical School for B-47 Stratojet bombers. After Technical School he was sent to Biggs Air Force Base, El Paso, Texas, where he was a member of Strategic Air Command. While there, he worked on the B-47 as well as KC-135 Stratotankers.

In 1959, he was sent to Turner Air Force Base, Albany, Ga., where he worked on KC-135s and B-52 Stratofortress aircraft. Upon his release from active duty, he enlisted in the New Jersey Air National Guard 108th Tactical Fighter Wing in 1963.

During his military career he worked on B-47, B-52, KC-135, F-4, F-100, F-105, F-80, F-86, F-84, and T-33 aircrafts. In 1963, because of his civilian job requirements, he had to take a break from the military. Upon re-enlisting in 1974 in the 108th, he cross-trained to the Consolidated Base Personnel Office, where he eventually became Chief.

Vaughn was then assigned to the Combat Support Squadron where he was appointed First Sergeant and as such he became the first African American in the New Jersey Air National Guard to hold such a position. In 1989, he was selected at the second Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Commander of the New Jersey Air National Guard, again becoming the first African American to hold such a position. In 1993, Vaughn was appointed by the Director

of the Air National Guard to serve on a vision committee to study the roles and utilization of SNCO's in the ANG. He was the enlisted representative to the Eastern Region Long Range Planning Committee and he was Vice Chairman of the ANG Enlisted Field Advisory Council.. He is also past President of the 108th SNCO Council and a life member of the NJ Enlisted Association.

Vaughn received the following awards and decorations during his career; Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with 1 bronze oak leaf cluster, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with 1 bronze oak leaf cluster, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with 4 bronze oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Medal with 1 silver and 4 bronze oak leaf clusters, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, NCO PME Ribbon, Small Arms expert Marksmanship ribbon, Air Force Basic Training Ribbon and in addition, he was an NCO Academy Honor Graduate.

Vaughn also holds the following degrees; AAS Degree in Resource Management from the Community College of the Air Force, BS Degree in Workforce Education from Southern Illinois University, MS Degree in Administration from Central Michigan University, and a Chancellors Certificate in Public Policy from The University of Missouri. Vaughn is married, has two children four grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. He resides with his wife the former Isabelle Porter, in South River, N.J. He retired honorably from military service on March 3, 1996, after 31 years of service.

CHIEF MASTER SGT. CHARLES D. ADAMSON

3RD NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATE COMMAND CHIEF
1996 - 2000

3



Charles D. Adamson was born on June 12, 1940 in Pittsburgh, Pa. He graduated from Baldwin High School in 1958 and immediately after graduation enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. After Basic Training, Adamson attended Missile Engine Mechanic Technical School at Chanute AFB, Ill., and after graduating he was assigned to Hurlbert Field, Elgin AFB, Fla., where he was involved in missile research and development of the BOMARC AIM99A Missile.

On June 9, 1962, Adamson was honorably discharged from the Air Force and enlisted in the New Jersey Air National Guard and was assigned to the 108th Tactical Fight Wing as a traditional Guardsman. He began his civilian employment as a missile technician for the Forestall Research Center at Princeton University. In 1964 he began a career as a technician with the 108th where he was assigned as a F-86H Sabre mechanic, and he eventually worked on T-33A, F-105B, F-4D and F-4E fighter aircraft. During his tenure he was promoted to various positions to include Fuel Shop Supervisor, Maintenance Control Supervisor and Flight Line Supervisor.

The 108th converted to the KC-135A Stratotanker, and the 170th Air Refueling Group deactivated and the 108th Air Refueling Wing (ARW) was established where Adamson was assigned as the Supervisor of the 150th Aircraft Generation Squadron, a position he would hold until his retirement from technician service in 1995.

Upon technician retirement, Adamson continued his service as a traditional Guardsman and was assigned as the Operational Readiness Inspection Team Leader to assist the 108th in preparing for their critical inspection. In 1996 the 108th received an outstanding rating from the Air Mobility Command Inspector General, a rating never

received by an Air National Guard Wing. His expertise and experience was instrumental in the wing achieving such a prestigious rating.

In Nov., 1996, Adamson was selected as the third State Command Chief Master Sgt. of the New Jersey Air National Guard, where he served until his retirement in June, 2000. Adamson received numerous civilian awards and military decorations, to include the Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, and the New Jersey State Meritorious Service Medal.

Adamson's strong belief in the value of education motivated him to earn a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the College of New Jersey in 1979. His military education includes graduating Missile Engine School, Aircraft Maintenance School, Fuels System School, Maintenance Management course, NCO Academy at McGee Tyson ANGB, Tenn., and the SNCO Academy by correspondence.

Adamson was extremely involved in the community and civic affairs, he served as a volunteer Little League Coach, coordinator of the Senior Boys' Basketball of Berkley Township and has worked the N.J. Special Olympics and Veteran's stand-down. He was a member of the Lacy Elks Veteran of Foreign Wars Post 1503, American Legion Post 1000 and the AF Association. Adamson passed away on Jan. 28, 2021 and is survived by his wife Linda four children; David, Christopher, Theresa and Raymond.

CHIEF MASTER SGT. JOHN MASTROGIOVANNI

4TH NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATE COMMAND CHIEF
2000 – 2003

4



John Mastrogiovanni was born on Jan. 18, 1947 in Jersey City, N.J., and graduated from Plainfield High School, Plainfield NJ, in June 1965. Mastrogiovanni enlisted in the U.S. Air Force immediately after graduating from High School. After completion of basic training he attended the Jet Aircraft Technical School at Sheppard AFB, Texas, and graduated in Nov. 1965. He was first assigned to MacDill AFB, Fla., until Nov. 1966 at which a he was assigned to the 432nd TRW at Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand. During his tour in Southeast Asia, Mastrogiovanni was assigned to an Aircraft Crash Rescue Team and the Repair and Reclamation Shop. In Jan., 1968 he returned to the United States and was assigned to Nellis AFB, Nev. In Jan. 1969, Mastrogiovanni was honorably discharged from the U.S. Air Force.

Upon discharge from the Air Force, he began working in a series of civilian jobs. From Jan. 1969 through Aug. 1969, he was a Stop-N-Go Food Store Manager. In Aug. 1969, he left the food retail business to attend Teterboro School of Aeronautics in Teterboro, N.J., where he took the A&P Mechanics Course and graduated in Aug. 1970 receiving his A&P license.

After graduation he began working for the Portasoft Company, servicing and repairing water softening equipment. In June, 1971, he began employment with Dean Oil Co. performing installation of gas station pumps and signs.

In June, 1972, while attending a McGuire AFB open house, Mastrogiovanni learned for the first time about the New Jersey Air National Guard. Col. John Murphy, Chief of Maintenance, 108th Tactical Fighter Wing, met him and virtually hired him on the spot.

He became an technician and was assigned as a crew chief for the unit's F-105B aircraft. He was also a crew chief on the T-33 and F-4D aircraft. In 1985, he was promoted to Repair and Reclamation Shop Chief, and in 1988 he became Aerospace Section Chief and the Field Maintenance Branch Chief. In 1993 after conversion to the KC-135E aircraft, he was assigned as Equipment Maintenance Branch Chief in the 108th Air Refueling Wing. In 1995 after the deactivation of the 170th Air Refueling Group and consolidation with the 108th, Mastrogiovanni was assigned as the 141st Aircraft Generation Squadron Branch Chief. In 1997 he became the Component Repair Branch Chief, a position from which he retired from as an Air National Guard technician in April, 2000.

During his career with the 108th, Mastrogiovanni was assigned numerous additional duties and completed all of them with distinction. His three most notable assignments were 108th Maintenance Squadron Mobility NCOIC from 1975 to 1990, 108th ARW Senior Enlisted Advisor from 1990 to 1995, and 108th ARW Training Team Cadre Member from 1993 to 1997. In March, 2000, Mastrogiovanni was selected as fourth State Command Chief of the New Jersey Air National Guard. Mastrogiovanni served with honor until he retired from military service in 2003.

During his service he received numerous awards and decorations to include the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Presidential Unit Citation and Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters.

CHIEF MASTER SGT. PAUL M. GUNNING

5TH NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATE COMMAND CHIEF
2003 - 2007

5



Paul M. Gunning enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in July, 1969 and entered Basic Military Training in Sept., 1969 after graduating from Mainland Regional High School. He was discharged from the Air Force in Sept., 1973 and enlisted into the New Jersey Air National Guard in April, 1974. During his 38 year military career, he has had numerous assignments within the medical and military personnel career fields. He has been stationed at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, Ching Chuan Kang Air Base, Taiwan, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., Atlantic City International Airport, N.J., McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., and Fort Dix, N.J. Prior to his selection as the Command Chief Master Sgt. for New Jersey, he served as the Personnel Resource Manager and Director of Strength for the Joint Force Headquarters-Air Component, New Jersey National Guard, Fort Dix.

In Sept., 2003, Maj. Gen. Glenn K. Rieth, the Adjutant General of New Jersey, appointed Gunning as the 5th State Command Chief Master Sgt. for the New Jersey Air National Guard. He was responsible for all affairs concerned with the over 2,000 enlisted personnel of the New Jersey Air National Guard. He served as State Command Chief from 2003 to his retirement in 2007.

During Gunning's tenure as State Command Chief, he helped write, implement and monitor the standardized evaluation procedures for the Exceptional Promotion Program (EPP) for the New Jersey Air National Guard. He initiated several procedural changes for EPP that had a direct impact to increase NJANG ability to recognize exceptional performers for promotion to the grades of senior master

sergeant and chief master sergeant. He updated and modified Air National Guard Senior NCO Academy In-Residence enrollment packages and was able to increase NJANG's in-residence allotment by 30 percent. His emphasis on discipline and standards dramatically increased the morale and esprit de corps of the Wings. Gunning's education includes completing the NCO Academy in 1981 and the Senior NCO Academy in 1984.

Gunning's military Awards and Decorations include, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with eight oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal with two stars, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Ribbon Short, USAF NCO Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon and the New Jersey Meritorious Service Medal.

Gunning and his wife LuAnn are long-time area residents of Atlantic County and presently reside in Egg Harbor Township, N.J. They have two adult children, Brian and Brandi.

CHIEF MASTER SGT. EDWARD A. KAROL

6TH NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATE COMMAND CHIEF
2007 – 2009

6



Edward A. Karol enlisted in the New Jersey Air National Guard in Feb., 1971 as a Weapons Control Systems Mechanic Apprentice. During the span of his 32-year career, he attained eight different Air Force Specialty Codes. He achieved "7" levels in Weapons Control Systems, Flight Simulator Specialist, Quality Control Inspection, F-106 Fire Control Systems, and Imagery Systems Maintenance. In April, 1994, he was selected for the position of Support Group First Sergeant and assumed First Sergeant responsibilities for the 177th Aircraft Generation Squadron until April, 2000. He then served as the Human Resources Advisor for the 177th Fighter Wing. He attained the rank of Chief Master Sgt. on July 16, 2003. He was appointed as the State Command Chief from June 2007 until his retirement on May 31, 2009.

Karol's education includes a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science and Information Systems, Richard Stockton College, Associate in Applied Science in Radar Technology degree, Community College of the Air Force and an Associate in Applied Science in Electronics Technology degree, Atlantic Community College. His Professional Military Educations includes completing the NCO and SNCO and First Sergeant Academies. Karol also completed the Air National Guard Human Resources Advisor School, the Diversity Training Facilitator Course and the Weapons Control Systems Mechanic Course.

Karol's Military Awards and Decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Reserve Force Meritorious Service Medal with two silver and one bronze oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star, Air Force Longevity Award with one silver and two

bronze leaves, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with one gold and one bronze hour glass, The Professional Military Education Ribbon with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Training Ribbon. His New Jersey National Guard decorations include the New Jersey Ribbon of Honor with two bronze oak leaves, Good Conduct Medal with five silver knots, Merit Award with 29 years of service, New Jersey Desert Storm Support Ribbon, State Service Ribbon, Governor's Unit Award and the New Jersey Unit Strength Award.

Karol's other achievements include the 1974 Sustained Superior Performance Award, receiving his Private Pilot License in 1978, and Special Act Award as a Load Augmentee in 1979. In 1981, Karol received the following awards: 177th CAM Maintenance Man of the Quarter, Outstanding Airman of the Year Award from NGANG (for 177th FIG), Sustained Superior Performance Award and Third Place Trophy Air Weapons Load Competition and earned his FCC 2nd Class Radio Telephone License. In 1982, he was awarded the Air Force Association Citation for Outstanding Leadership. In 1983, he served as a part-time teacher of the Vocational Technical Electronics Certificate State of New Jersey. In 1983, he received the NCO Academy Distinguished Graduate Award. In 1998 and 1999 he was awarded the Outstanding First Sergeant of the Year Award, Enlisted Association of the National Guard of New Jersey.

Karol passed away in Sept., 2019 and is survived by his wife Patricia and two daughters, Tracey and Kimberly.

CHIEF MASTER SGT. MICHAEL R. FRANCIS

7TH NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATE COMMAND CHIEF
2009 – 2012

7



Michael R. Francis enlisted in the U.S. Navy in Jan., 1973 and graduated Basic Military Training at Naval Recruit Training Center, Orlando, Fla. in Aug., 1973. After graduating Photographer's Mate "A" School at the Naval Technical Training Unit, Pensacola Naval Air Station, Fla., he was assigned to the USS Vulcan, AR-5. Subsequently he served as an Enlisted Intelligence Assistant to the Defense Intelligence Agency at the Philadelphia Naval Ship Yard, while serving in the Naval Reserves and was discharged in 1979.

In June, 1983, he joined the New Jersey Air National Guard. After graduating from the Security Police Academy at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, Francis was assigned to 177th Security Police Flight. He was activated on Sept. 11, 2001 to support of Operation Noble Eagle and was deployed in support of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. His assignments included Antiterrorism NCOIC, Investigations NCOIC, Security Forces Manager, and Operations Superintendent at Sather Air Base, Baghdad International Airport, Iraq and the Command Chief at the 177th. He has worked with New Jersey's state partnership nation Albania where he has instructed on the duties and responsibilities of a Non-Commissioned Officer and continues to support the Satellite Non-Commissioned Officer Academy. In June, 2009 he was selected as the 7th State Command Chief of the New Jersey Air National Guard. Francis honorably retired from military service on June 30, 2012.

Francis completed Basic Naval Recruit Training Center in Orlando, Fla. in 1973. His military education includes completing the Photographer's Mate "A" School, Enlisted Intelligence Training, Fleet Intel Training Center Pacific, Air Force Security Police Academy, NCO Leadership School, NCO

Academy, Antiterrorism Level II Training, USAF SNCO Academy, Chief Leadership Course, Chief Executive Course and the Command Chief Orientation Course. His civilian education includes completing the New Jersey Chiefs of Police West Point Command Leadership Program, Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from Atlantic Community College, Associate Degree in Industrial Security from the Community College of the Air Force, Baccalaureate Degree in Law Enforcement from Thomas Edison State College and a Master Degree in Administration from Fairleigh Dickerson University.

Francis' military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with three bronze oak leaves, Meritorious Unit Award, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Navy "E" Award, Navy Good Conduct Medal, Armed Forces Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal with two bronze stars, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Short Tour Award, Air Force Expeditionary Service Award with gold border, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hour glass and "M" Device, Air Force PME Graduate Ribbon with bronze oak leaf, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with bronze star. His New Jersey National Guard decorations include, the Distinguished Service Medal, Commendation Medal, Ribbon of Honor, Good Conduct, Merit Award, Desert Storm Medal, and Governor's Unit Award Unit Strength Award.

CHIEF MASTER SGT. VINCENT P. MORTON

8TH NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATE COMMAND CHIEF
2012 – 2016

8



Vincent P. Morton for born and raised in Atlantic City, N.J. He began his military career in 1979 when he entered the U.S. Air Force. After completion of Basic Military Training and the Security Police Academy at Lackland Air Force, Texas, he was assigned to the 45th Missile Support Squadron at Ellsworth AFB, S.D. In Dec., 1982, he was assigned to Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England, and worked in support of F-111 aircraft on alert, Weapons Storage Area supervisor, and Quality Control Evaluator. In 1986, Morton was involved in Operation El Dorado Canyon while assigned to Lakenheath. He separated from active military service in 1987.

In 1989, Morton enlisted in the New Jersey Air National Guard in the 170th Security Police Squadron. In 1990, he deployed to Moron Air Base, Spain in support of Operation Desert Shield and was subsequently mobilized in support of Operation Desert Storm and assigned to Minot Air Force Base, N.D. In 1991, the 108th Tactical Fighter Wing merged with the 170th to form the 108th Air Refueling Wing and began flying the KC-135E Stratotanker. Morton was assigned as the NCOIC of the Security Police training section, Flight Sergeant, Security Police Operations Superintendent, and the Security Force Manager. He has deployed in support of Operation Deliberate Guard, Pisa Italy, and Operation Southern Watch, Eskan Village, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Immediately following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Morton was mobilized in support of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. Morton also served as the Air Guard Security Force liaison for Air Mobility Command gained Security Force units at Scott AFB, Ill., during the mobilization for Operation Noble Eagle and later was assigned as the Detainee Movement Operation

NCOIC at Fort Dix, N.J. He coordinated and participated in Detainee Movement teams to numerous foreign destinations. During Operation Katrina he deployed in support of local law enforcement in New Orleans, La.

Morton served as the 108th Wing Command Chief, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst from 2007 to 2012. In June, 2012, Morton was selected as the eighth State Command Chief of the New Jersey Air National Guard. Morton honorably retired from military service in Feb., 2016.

He attended the Non-commissioned Officers Leadership School, NCO Academy, Senior NCO Academy, Antiterrorism Level II Instructor Course, Security Police Air Base Defense Training, and the Ground Defense Command Course.

Morton's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with 2 bronze oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with 2 bronze oak leaf clusters, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, Air Reserve Forces, Meritorious Service Medal with 4 bronze oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal with 1 bronze service star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 1 'M' device, New Jersey Commendation Medal, New Jersey Ribbon of Honor with 2 silver oak leaf clusters, New Jersey Good, Conduct Ribbon with 1 silver clasp, New Jersey Merit Award Ribbon, New Jersey Desert Storm Support Ribbon and the New Jersey Unit Strength Award Ribbon Numeral Device.

CHIEF MASTER SGT. JANEEN M. FILLARI

9TH NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATE COMMAND CHIEF
2016 – 2019

9



Janeen M. Fillari entered Active Duty in the U.S. Air Force in July, 1989 as a Services Specialist, and cross-trained into the Paralegal Career Field in 1994. Fillari remained on active duty as a paralegal until Nov.,1998, and then transferred to the Reserves IMA, Category B program from 1998 to 2005. In 2005, Fillari transferred to the New Jersey Air National Guard and held the position as the Law Office Superintendent for the 108th Wing. She was then assigned as the Air Combat Command (ACC) Senior Paralegal Manager for the Air National Guard. Fillari has served in support of Operations Noble Eagle, and Enduring Freedom. Fillari also participated in humanitarian missions in support of Hurricane Opal and Hurricane Sandy.

In Feb., 2016, Fillari was selected as the ninth State Command Chief of the New Jersey Air National Guard. Fillari honorably retired from military service in 2019.

Fillari directly impacted the enlisted corps by launching the first ever Annual Enlisted Summit for the New Jersey Air National Guard. This now annual event was attended by over 180 Airmen in 2018 and provided development, morale-building and networking across two wings. Her dedication to diversity and inclusive leadership style had a tremendous positive impact on mission, morale, and quality of life programs as she developed a New Jersey Air National Guard Chief and First Sergeants' workshop; to foster cross-talk, force development, and self-improvement, affecting both the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard.

Chief Fillari greatly expanded the role of the New Jersey Air National Guard in the State Partnership Program by ensuring the Training Contact Teams for OCONUS and CONUS events with Albanian forces were joint. She worked with the Albanian Bilateral Affairs

Officer, the Office of Defense Cooperation and the New Jersey State Command Sgt. Maj. to create the foundational requirements and training for the creation of a volunteer professional Non Commissioned Officer Corp in Albania. Her sound guidance positively influenced six joint deployments with Albanian Forces.

Fillari's military education includes, Arctic Survival Training Course, Airman Leadership School, NCO Academy, SNCO Academy, Contemporary Base Issues Course, ANG Chief's Executive Course, ANG Command Chief Orientation Course, Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education, Course I, Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education, Course II and the Continuous Process Improvement Course. Her civilian education includes a Paralegal Certificate from St. Mary's College of California, Associate of Applied Science Paralegal Studies from Camden County College, a Bachelor of Science in Human Services with a concentration in Legal Studies from Thomas Edison State College and a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from Thomas Edison State College.

Fillari's major awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster, New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal, New Jersey Commendation Medal, New Jersey Ribbon of Honor, New Jersey Good Conduct Ribbon with two devices, New Jersey Merit Award Ribbon with seven devices and the New Jersey State Service Ribbon.

CHIEF MASTER SGT. MICHAEL J. RAKAUCKAS

10TH NEW JERSEY AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATE COMMAND CHIEF
2019 - PRESENT

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Michael J. Rakauckas was born and raised in Newark, N.J. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in March, 1992 and graduated from the Air Force Security Police Academy as a law enforcement specialist. His background includes extensive service in security forces at the squadron, group, joint and command levels. Rakauckas deployed numerous times in support of Operations Southern Watch, Vigilant Warrior, Provide Comfort, Restore Hope and Bright Star. In 1998, he transferred to the New Jersey Air National Guard to pursue a career in civilian law enforcement. Directly after the 2001 terrorist attacks, he was mobilized as a Security Forces Raven and was assigned as security team leader for C-17, C-130, KC-135, C-32 and dignitary aircraft providing air power support for Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, Fundamental Justice, Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn and Coronet Oak.

He has served as Staff Action Officer, Contingency Detainee Operations Cell, AMC Headquarters; ANG Security Forces career field Functional Manager; SOUTHCOM, Raven Stage Manager, Puerto Rico; Air Base Defense Operations Superintendent and Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division liaison, Sather Air Base, Bagdad, Iraq and the Air Senior Enlisted Leader, New Jersey National Guard Joint Homeland Response Force, FEMA Region II. He has competed in several worldwide Defender Challenge competitions as a team leader and coach where he was instrumental in winning several team medals for fitness, tactics and marksmanship. Prior to his current assignment, he served as the 108th Wing Command Chief. Rakauckas also currently serves as course facilitator for the ANG Command Chief Training Course.

Rakauckas holds an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice and a Professional Manager Certification from the Community College of the AF. His education includes an Associates Degree in Administrative Management, a Bachelor of Science in Human Services, Administration of Justice Degree and a Master of Science in Management, Organizational Leadership Degree from Thomas Edison State University.

His other major accomplishments includes being awarded Distinguished Graduate from Airmen Leadership School and Airman of Year in 1997. In 1999, he was named NCO of the Year for the NJANG. In 2005, he was awarded SNCO of the year for the ANG Security Forces Career Field. Additionally, in 2005 he was awarded Distinguished Graduate and the CMSAF Academic Achievement Award from the Air Force Senior NCO Academy.

His major awards and decorations include, Meritorious Service Medal with four bronze oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with three bronze oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with four bronze oak leaf clusters and Iraq Campaign Medal. Rakauckas has also been awarded the "Gold" German Armed Force Troop Proficiency Badge and the Air Force Headquarters Staff Badge.

In his civilian career, Rakauckas served over 20 years with the Mount Laurel Police Department, Burlington County, N.J. In Sept., 2019, he honorably retired as a Lieutenant assigned as the Operations Division Commander. Rakauckas and his wife Carlene have one child, Ryan and reside in Marlton, N.J.



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